

missed rollcall votes Nos. 251 through 255. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on rollcall No. 251, H. Res. 794—Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 252, H. Res. 804—Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People's Republic of China;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 253, H. Res. 608—Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People's Republic of China;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 254, H. Con. Res. 338—Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere, and

"No" on rollcall No. 255.

#### ON HATRED AND VIOLENCE RELATED TO IMMIGRATION

#### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express concern about the sharp rise in hate crimes and racial intolerance, and to urge acceptance in our Nation.

A recent report from the Southern Poverty Law Center stated that there were 803 hate groups in the USA last year. This is up from 762 in 2004 and is a 33 percent increase since 2000. The center's report stated the national debate that has focused on immigration has been "the single most important factor" in spurring activity among hate groups and has given them "an issue with real resonance."

Hundreds of thousands of people marched peacefully throughout the Nation to give a voice for immigrants in this country. Half a million in Los Angeles, 300,000 people in Chicago, 40,000 in Washington, DC, and 20,000 in Milwaukee and Phoenix marched to defend the hopes and dreams of immigrant families. Nearly 40,000 students across Southern California, including students at several schools in my district, marched for the rights of immigrants.

Those who marched did so peacefully. I encourage everyone to remember the great history of change driven by nonviolent action, which is such a vibrant part of our Nation's fabric. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but I urge that such expression be done in a peaceful and nonthreatening manner.

#### OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

#### HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These are exceptional students that serve the community and participate actively in school and civic activities. It is my

pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico, and I are proud of them.

Certificate of Merit Award Winners 2005: Juanita Martinez, Albuquerque High School; Robert Cardwell, Monzano High School; Britten Smith, Highland High School; Gary R. Stinnett, La Cueva High School; Robert Sanchez, Rio Grande High School; Cameron Banes, Creative Education Preparatory Institute; David Gullett, Temple Baptist Academy; Ashley Martin, West Mesa High School; Leanne Raskob, St. Pius X High School; Jane Yein Song, Sandia High School; Dorothy Billau, Cornerstone Christian School; Jordan Spence, Evangel Christian Academy; Makenzi Williamson, Hope Christian Schools; Aaron Sims, Menaul High School; Emily Wildsmith, Southwest Secondary Learning; Nicholas Trumbley, Albuquerque Evening School; Karl Nieman, Career Enriched Center; Takesha Haynes, New Future High School; Suzia Van Swol, East Mountain High School; Erika Anaya, Moriarty High School; Samuel Lujan, Charter Vocational High School; Jessica R. Siegel, Sandia Preparatory School; Felicia Fuentes, South Valley Academy; Maggie Elizabeth Crank, Albuquerque; Danielle Threadgill, Bernalillo High School; Ruth Ann Huning, Los Lunas High School; Marie Jiron, Career Academy; Jesse Rafael Torres, Mountainair High School.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. "JACK" ASHER

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John L. "Jack" Asher, who has played a vital role in the development of Asher's Chocolates, in Lewistown and Souderton, Pennsylvania, over the last 51 years. Started by his grandfather in 1892, Jack has led the company since 1966.

With over 1,000 molds, Asher's can be respected as one of the largest candy molding companies, and one of the oldest family owned and operated candy manufacturers in America. The time-tested recipe for success is epitomized in the daily operation of one of the foremost confectioners in the country. I owned a small business for years and I understand, along with many others across Pennsylvania, the day-in and day-out work it takes to succeed. I applaud Jack for his commitment to his community and his business.

In early April, Jack was bestowed with the national honor of induction into the Candy Hall of Fame. This award recognizes Jack for his life's achievements and dedication to the company, as his contributions to the business and the confectionery industry are immeasurable.

As our economy continues to move in the right direction, our small businesses are the driving force. These businesses make up our communities, neighborhoods and towns. The Pennsylvanians who have benefited from the efforts of Asher's Chocolates—as employees, chocolate lovers and more—would certainly join me in thanking Jack for his contributions to the community and the economy, as well as

serving as an inspiration for the spirit of familial virtue.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2006, I was speaking to a group of professionals in New York City about my work in Congress and, therefore, missed five recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously, and had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on recorded vote No. 251, "yes" on recorded vote 252, "yes" on recorded vote 253, "yes" on recorded vote 254, and "yes" on recorded vote 255.

#### HONORING QUEBECOR WORLD PUBLICATIONS

#### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Quebecor World Publications as they mark the publication of the one billionth copy of Highlights magazine.

Few things in this world are as consistent and positive as Highlights magazine has been for the past 60 years. Since 1946, Highlights magazine has kept parents and kids smiling. As a parent, I remember sharing time with my two children, Mary Morgan and Chad, while reading this wonderful magazine. Countless Americans have enjoyed decades of good memories thanks to Highlights.

In an era when we have to guard our kids' access to information like never before, it's nice to know that America can still depend on Quebecor and Highlights magazine not only to entertain but to teach the morals and values we hold dear.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. CHARLES HAUGHEY

#### HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of Mr. Charles Haughey, former Taoiseach of the Republic of Ireland, and to offer my deepest condolences today to the Irish nation and to Mr. Haughey's family and loved ones, including especially his wife Maureen, his daughter Eimear and his sons Conor, Cian and Sean.

Mr. Haughey served both his constituency and the Irish nation with distinction and honor over his 35-year career in Dail Eireann. He will be most remembered for his key roles in laying the foundations for Ireland's economic rebirth, and in promoting and furthering progress towards a lasting peace in Northern Ireland.